

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 IO-11 AF-06 OPIC-03 SAM-01 SAJ-01 ACDA-05

OMB-01 /081 W

----- 016827

O R 261205Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6128

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 1238

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: PACT SIGNING DELAYED

REF: LISBON 1221 (DTG 251423Z FEB 76)

1. DELAY: CEREMONY TO SIGN THE ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT (AFM) -
POLITICAL PARTIES PACT WAS NOT HELD FEB 26 DUE TO DIFFICULTIES
REPORTED REFTEL. PS, PPD AND CDS STRONGLY OBJECTED TO THE PREAMBLE
ADDED BY RC WITHOUT PRIOR CONSULTATION WITH THE PARTIES.
PPD ALSO REAFFIRMED ITS INSISTENCE ON CLOSELY SPACED ELECTIONS.

2. PROGRESS: RC NEGOTIATORS MET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
FIVE PRINCIPAL PARTIES THROUGHOUT FEB 25 IN EFFORT TO RESOLVE
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DIFFERENCES. CDS LEADER FREITAS DE AMARAL STATED FOLLOWING THE

MEETING THAT AGREEMENT WAS REACHED TO ELIMINATE THE PREAMBLE. HE SAID THAT CDS HAD NO FURTHER OBJECTIONS TO THE PACT. MEETING ALSO CONCLUDED THAT PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS SHOULD BE STAGED NOT LESS THAN TWO MONTHS AFTER LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS - WITH JUNE 27 SET AS THE LIKELY DATE. PCP AND PPD RESERVED THEIR POSITIONS UNTIL THEIR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES COULD STUDY THE PROPOSED AGREEMENT FEB 26. PS SPOKESMAN SAID DIFFERENCES HAD BEEN RESOLVED. MELO ANTUNES EXPRESSED HIS HOPE THAT PACT COULD BE SIGNED LATE FEB 26.

3. COMMENT: THE KEY TO SIGNATURE OF THE PACT NOW IS THE PPD DECISION ON THE ACCEPTABILITY OF A TWO-MONTH DELAY IN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS. PPD SOURCE SAID EARLIER THAT PPD COULD ACCEPT SEPARATION OF UP TO 60 DAYS, BUT THE AGREEMENT REACHED YESTERDAY APPEARS TO LEAVE ROOM FOR FURTHER POSTPONEMENT. NONETHELESS, PRESSURE FOR EARLY SIGNATURE OF THE PACT IS GROWING, AND PPD WOULD FACE BARRAGE OF CRITICISM IF IT DELAYED PACT SIGNATURE FURTHER. CARLUCCI

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

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